



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 193

LCO No. 1256

01256_____KID

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MANDATED REPORTERS AND REQUIRING
CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECKS FOR YOUTH CAMP
EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17a-101 of the 2012 supplement
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in
3 lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

4 (b) The following persons shall be mandated reporters: Any
5 physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, any
6 resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or not
7 so licensed, any registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, medical
8 examiner, dentist, dental hygienist, psychologist, a school employee, as
9 defined in section 53a-65, any coach or director of intramural,
10 interscholastic or youth athletics, any coach or director of a private
11 sports organization or team, any administrator, faculty, staff, athletic
12 director, coach or trainer employed by a constituent unit of the state
13 system of higher education or private institution of higher education,
14 social worker, police officer, juvenile or adult probation officer,
15 juvenile or adult parole officer, member of the clergy, pharmacist,

16 physical therapist, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, mental health
17 professional or physician assistant, any person who is a licensed or
18 certified emergency medical services provider, any person who is a
19 licensed or certified alcohol and drug counselor, any person who is a
20 licensed marital and family therapist, any person who is a sexual
21 assault counselor or a battered women's counselor as defined in
22 section 52-146k, any person who is a licensed professional counselor,
23 any person who is a licensed foster parent, any person paid to care for
24 a child in any public or private facility, child day care center, group
25 day care home or family day care home licensed by the state, any
26 employee of the Department of Children and Families, any employee
27 of the Department of Public Health who is responsible for the licensing
28 of child day care centers, group day care homes, family day care
29 homes or youth camps, any youth camp administrator, director or
30 their alternate, the Child Advocate and any employee of the Office of
31 the Child Advocate and any family relations counselor, family
32 relations counselor trainee or family services supervisor employed by
33 the Judicial Department.

34 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2012*) (a) Except as provided in
35 subsection (b) of this section, each youth camp licensed pursuant to
36 chapter 368r of the general statutes shall require an individual to
37 submit to a state and national criminal history records check prior to
38 the individual: (1) Beginning employment at the camp, (2)
39 volunteering at the camp, or (3) assuming responsibility for
40 transporting any child attending the camp in a motor vehicle. The
41 criminal history records check required under this subsection shall be
42 conducted in accordance with section 29-17a of the general statutes.

43 (b) A criminal history records check under subsection (a) of this
44 section shall not be required for any individual who has successfully
45 completed a background check for immigration purposes in
46 accordance with federal law not earlier than six months prior to the
47 date such individual (1) begins employment at the camp, (2) begins
48 volunteering at the camp, or (3) assumes responsibility for

49 transporting any child attending the camp in a motor vehicle.

50 (c) The cost of the state and national criminal history records checks
51 required under subsection (a) of this section shall be paid by the
52 individual.

53 Sec. 3. Section 19a-422 of the general statutes is repealed and the
54 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

55 To be eligible for the issuance or renewal of a youth camp license
56 pursuant to this chapter, the camp shall satisfy the following
57 requirements: (1) The location of the camp shall be such as to provide
58 adequate surface drainage and afford facilities for obtaining a good
59 water supply; (2) each dwelling unit, building and structure shall be
60 maintained in good condition, suitable for the use to which it is put,
61 and shall present no health or fire hazard as so certified by the
62 department and the State Fire Marshal or local fire marshal, as
63 indicated by a current fire marshal certificate dated within the past
64 year and available on site when the youth camp is in operation; (3)
65 there shall be an adequate and competent staff, which includes the
66 camp director or assistant director, one of whom shall be on site at all
67 times the camp is in operation, activities specialists, counselors and
68 maintenance personnel, of good character and reputation; (4) prior to
69 assuming responsibility for campers, staff shall be trained, at a
70 minimum, on the camp's policies and procedures pertaining to
71 behavioral management and supervision, emergency health and safety
72 procedures and recognizing, preventing and reporting child abuse and
73 neglect; (5) prior to employing any individual as staff, a criminal
74 history records check shall be conducted for such individual in
75 accordance with section 2 of this act; (6) all hazardous activities,
76 including, but not limited to, archery, aquatics, horseback riding and
77 firearms instruction, shall be supervised by a qualified activities
78 specialist who has adequate experience and training in such specialist's
79 area of specialty; [(6)] (7) the staff of a resident and nonresident camp
80 shall at all times include an adult trained in the administration of first

81 aid as required by the commissioner; and [(7)] (8) records of personal
 82 data for each camper shall be kept in any reasonable form the camp
 83 director may choose, and shall include (A) the camper's name, age and
 84 address, (B) the name, address and telephone number of the parents or
 85 guardian, (C) the dates of admission and discharge, and (D) such other
 86 information as the commissioner shall require. Any youth camp
 87 licensed under this chapter shall operate only as the type of camp
 88 authorized by such license. Such camps shall not advertise any service
 89 they are not equipped or licensed to offer. The license shall be posted
 90 in a conspicuous place at camp headquarters and failure to so post the
 91 license shall result in the presumption that the camp is being operated
 92 in violation of this chapter.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	17a-101(b)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	19a-422

Statement of Purpose:

To expand the category of persons who are mandated reporters and to require criminal history records check for youth camp staff employees and volunteers.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]